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C.M.F.E 10DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
Intelligence Information Handling Committee
WASHINGTON, DC 20505

23 MAY 1984

LOGGED

IHC/MM 84-50
22 May 1984MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Charles Mangio
Technical Advisor
Director, Data Services
Foreign Technology Division

FROM:

Vice Chairman, Intelligence Information
Handling Committee

SUBJECT: Transtech Sinoterm Material, Transmission of

1. As promised, I am attaching the latest information supplied to me on the Transtech Sinoterm terminal. This includes a quote on the equipment and software and maintenance. The price is a little higher than previously stated because I had assumed the software to be included, but they are asking an additional \$5,500 one time fee for that, plus additional charges for installation, warranty and character sets.

2. From the literature you will see that the keyboard arrangement and the order of entry is optimized for those conversant with the language. I am still of the opinion that with a reasonable amount of training a non-linguist could learn to use the system proficiently. However, if it were to be put into a full scale operation using non-linguists, I think modifications could be made which could make it easier to learn and use. Indeed, I believe that a considerable reduction in keyboard size could be made without producing an undue increase in ambiguity, particularly if the character set were limited to the ISO standard Kanji. Perhaps some study should be done to see if this could improve non-linguist productivity as one approached the implementation of a production system. For the present it should be sufficient to evaluate the system as is.

Attachment: a/s

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